

Application No. 09/635,011
Response to Final Office Action

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10 and 16-19 have been canceled (in addition to previously canceled claims 2, 7, 12 and 20).

Since the amendments to the claims are limited to the cancelling of claims, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be approved and entered under 37 CFR 1.116.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 11, 13-15, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the previously cited combination of USP 6,564,070 ("Nagamine et al") and USP 6,600,930 ("Sakurai et al"). This rejection, however, is again respectfully traversed.

According to the present invention as recited in independent claim 11, a radio communication system is provided which comprises a communication terminal and a service center connected to the communication terminal via a radio channel.

As recited in claim 11, the communication terminal comprises: mail creation means for creating an electronic mail; detecting means for detecting a current position of the

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communication terminal; and transmission means for attaching position information indicating the current position detected by the detecting means to the electronic mail and transmitting the electronic mail with the position information attached thereto to the service center.

And as recited in claim 11, the service center comprises: storing means for storing regional image information specific to positions of the terminal, wherein the regional image information comprises images specific to the positions of the terminal; reading means for reading from the storing means the regional image information, comprising at least one of the images, corresponding to the position information attached to the electronic mail and attaching the regional image information to the electronic mail; and means for transmitting the electronic mail with the regional image information attached thereto.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in claim 11, the electronic mail is created, the position of the communication terminal is detected, and the position information of the communication terminal is attached to the electronic mail, at the communication terminal. At the service center, regional image information (images specific to positions of the terminal) is stored, regional image information corresponding to the position information attached to received electronic mail is

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attached to the electronic mail, and the electronic mail with the regional image information attached thereto is transmitted.

That is, according to the claimed present invention, the transmission of an electronic mail with regional image information attached thereto is a two-stage process. First, at the communication terminal, the electronic mail is created and position information is attached thereto (and the electronic mail is transmitted). Second, at the service center, regional image information that corresponds to the position information is read out, and the regional image information is attached to the electronic mail, which is then transmitted from the service center.

On page 5-6 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Nagamine et al discloses all of the features recited in claim 11 except for the service center, and the Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Nagamine et al in view of Sakurai et al to achieve the features of the present invention as recited in claim 11.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that Nagamine et al at most discloses only the first stage of the two-stage mail transmission system recited in claim 11.

That is, Nagamine et al discloses capturing an image and, if it is desired to do so, obtaining position information and

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attaching the position information to the image (column 6, lines 4-49). In addition, Nagamine et al discloses that an image can be transmitted as an email to a desired destination (column 7, lines 12-13, column 11, lines 31-32).

Thus, Nagamine et al merely discloses capturing an image, obtaining position information corresponding to the image, attaching the position information to the image, and transmitting the image as an electronic mail.

Clearly, this disclosure of Nagamine et al (corresponding to the portions of Nagamine et al cited by the Examiner) corresponds at most to the first stage (the actions by the communication terminal) of the two-stage mail transmission system recited in claim 11.

It is respectfully submitted that Nagamine et al clearly does not at all disclose, teach or suggest that, before the transmitted image with position information reaches its desired destination, it is processed by a service center that reads regional image information comprising at least one image (from stored regional image information which comprises images specific to the positions of the terminal), and then attaches the read out regional image information to the electronic mail and transmits the electronic mail with the regional image information attached

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thereto, as according to the present invention as recited in claim 11.

The Examiner contends that it would have been obvious to modify Nagamine et al to include a service center as disclosed by Sakurai et al for the purposes of providing mass storage.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that even if it would have been obvious to provide mass storage at a service center in Nagamine et al as suggested by the Examiner, merely providing mass storage at a service center for a digital camera does not at all correspond to storing regional image information and then reading out regional image information and attaching it to a received electronic mail, based on position information attached to the electronic mail, as recited in claim 11.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that as explained in detail in the Amendment filed on September 9, 2005, Nagamine et al does not even disclose providing "storing means" or "reading means" (as recited in claim 11) in the communication terminal thereof.

Specifically, the Examiner contends that column 6, lines 29-32 of Nagamine et al discloses storing means for storing regional image information specific to positions of the terminal, wherein the regional image information comprises images specific to the positions of the terminal. And the Examiner contends that

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column 6, lines 4-19 and column 7, lines 12-13 of Nagamine et al disclose means for reading from the storing means the regional image information, comprising at least one of the images, corresponding to the position information attached to the electronic mail and attaching the regional image information to the electronic mail.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that column 6, lines 29-32 of Nagamine et al merely discloses adding detected position information to a just-captured image. That is, column 6, lines 4-19 of Nagamine et al discloses (a) capturing the image to which the position information is added in the process described at column 6, lines 29-32 and (b) setting a mode to add the position information in the process described at column 6, lines 29-32.

Thus, even if column 6, lines 29-32 of Nagamine et al were interpreted to disclose the creation of a database of regional image information, column 6, lines 4-19 of Nagamine et al clearly does not relate to reading out information stored at column 6, lines 29-32, because column 6, lines 4-19 describes steps leading up to the storing of information at column 6, lines 29-32.

Column 7, lines 12-13 of Nagamine et al, moreover, merely discloses the transmission of the image data that has the

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position information added thereto in the process described at column 6, lines 29-32 of Nagamine et al.

It is respectfully submitted that none of these cited portions of Nagamine et al even remotely discloses, teaches or suggests: (i) receiving an electronic mail with position information added thereto, (ii) reading regional image information out from storage means in accordance with the position information attached to the received email, wherein the read out regional image information includes at least one image, and (iii) attaching the read out regional image information to the received email and transmitting the email, as according to the storing, reading and transmitting means of the service center of the claimed present invention as recited in claim 11.

Thus, even if Nagamine et al and Sakurai et al were combinable to achieve a mass database of images with position information attached thereto (which the Examiner appears to be suggesting at page 5 of the Office Action, second paragraph from the bottom), neither Nagamine et al nor Sakurai et al discloses receiving an electronic mail with position information attached thereto, searching the mass database for an image corresponding to the position information of the received email, reading out the image corresponding to the position information, and attaching the read out image to the received electronic mail, as

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according to the present invention as recited in claim 11. That is, even the combination of Nagamine et al and Sakurai et al does not achieve the features of the present invention as recited in claim 11.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 11 and claims 13-15, 21 and 22 depending therefrom clearly patentably distinguish over Nagamine et al and Sakurai et al, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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